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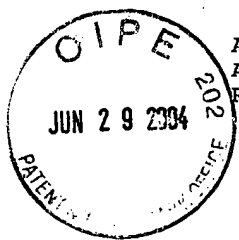
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Appl. No. 10/717,298
Amdt. dated June 29, 2004
Reply to Office action of June 25, 2004

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In the specification:

Page 1, line 4 through page 3 line 7, please delete the
claim language as follows:

~~{claims}~~

~~{Claim 1} A developing apparatus equipped with a
developing-agent holder in a cylinder shape rotating in a
prescribed direction for holding a developing agent on the
peripheral face thereof; a developing agent controlling
member extending in the length direction of the developing
agent holder in opposition thereto and controlling the
developing agent held on the peripheral face of the
developing agent holder to be in a prescribed thickness,
and a magnetic plate extending in an arc shape along the
peripheral face of the developing agent holder in a region
outside the lengthwise end of the developing agent
controlling member; for developing a latent image by
feeding a developing agent from the developing agent holder
to the image-bearing member bearing a latent image thereon,
wherein said magnetic plate has a covering part for
covering a portion of the peripheral face of the developing
agent holder in a range from the magnetic plate to the
region opposing the developing agent controlling member~~

~~{Claim 2} The developing apparatus according to
claim 1, wherein the covering part is a protruding part
protruding on a portion of a face of the magnetic plate~~

Page 2 — RESPONSE (U.S. Patent Appln. S.N. 10/717,298)
[\\Files\\Files\\Correspondence\\June 2004\\i208rtoa062904.doc]

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~~opposing the developing agent controlling member.~~

~~[Claim 3] The developing apparatus according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the covering part is placed at the upstream side of the developing agent controlling member in the rotation direction of the developing agent holder.~~

~~[Claim 4] The developing apparatus according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the covering part is placed at the downstream side of the developing agent controlling member in the rotation direction of the developing agent holder.~~

~~[Claim 5] The developing apparatus according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the developing agent controlling member is an elastic body, serving to control the developing agent to be in a prescribed thickness by pressure-contact with the peripheral face of the developing agent holder; and the covering part covers a portion of the developing-agent holder ranging from the upstream side of the developing agent controlling member in the rotation direction of the developing agent holder member to the region above the press-contact of the peripheral face of the developing agent controlling member with the developing agent holder.~~

~~[Claim 6] The developing apparatus according to any of claims 1 to 5, wherein the covering part is apart more from the peripheral face of the developing-agent holder than the other portion of the magnetic plate.~~

~~[Claim 7] The developing apparatus according to any of claims 1 to 6, wherein the covering part has a slanting face which slants from the upstream side to the downstream~~

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~~side in the rotation direction of the developing agent~~
~~holder toward the inside of the developing agent holder and~~
~~along the peripheral face.~~

~~[Claim 8] An image forming apparatus, employing the~~
~~developing apparatus set forth in any of claims 1 to 7 for~~
~~forming an image by developing an electrostatic latent~~
~~image with the developing apparatus.~~